



WESTFIELD WEEKLY

19th January 2024

Edition 17

Key Dates

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 23rd January

- Nursery Parent Tour

Friday 26th January

- W1SPA Year 4 Cake Sale

Advance Notice

Friday 2nd February

- Year 6 Young Voices Concert
- Open Learning Morning – Parents Welcome

A message from Miss Leach...



I wanted to start this week by saying thank you for continuing to support us here at Westfield. We have felt particularly supported by the uniform and attendance improvements that we have seen this term, as this has a knock-on effect on the learning of our children. As you are aware, being in school every day is vital to raising attainment and outcomes, and uniform expectations ensure that children feel a sense of belonging to the school community and that there is a positive attitude toward learning across the school.

Thank you also for signing and returning the home-school agreements. The children seeing us all working together with positive and open communication gives them a clear message that we are all on the same team—they are, after all, at the heart of everything that we do. If you haven't already signed these, could we please ask that you return them as soon as possible to the office so that we can work with the children to sign them too.

Have a good weekend,
Miss Leach

LEADERSHIP CORNER



A message from Mrs Ramm

I'd like to introduce myself as the History/Geography coordinator. I ensure that the subjects of History and Geography dictated by the curriculum are covered in school in an engaging, fun and stimulating way.

History especially has started off in a big way at Westfield with some exciting events that have already taken place.

We launched History last term with an assembly on Black history month in which children have discovered some famous Black people that have affected us and our lives.

I am looking forward to sharing information with the children about women's history month which will be celebrated in March.

Topic 1

Let's find out what each year group has been getting up to:-

Reception - have enjoyed looking at themselves and their own personal history through their family and extended family.

Year 1 - Have been looking at toys they play with now in comparison to those that they played with as babies. They particularly enjoyed looking at old baby toys.

Year 2 - have been comparing toys in the 1960's to that of toys of today. They really enjoyed inviting grandparents to bring in their old toys and talk about them. What a treat!

Year 3 - Travelled back in time to Celtic Harmony and explored how stone age people lived.

Year 4 - made a visit to the Verulamium Museum and explored some roman artifacts from old pots to toilet paper!

Year 5 - have been discovering if the story of the trojan horse is based in truth or a myth.

Year 6 - have explored the British Empire and how it expanded across the world. They have been imagining themselves as traders and have played a game like that of risk.

Topic 2

What are we going to learn this term, lets go and find out:-

Year 1 - are going to compare the lives and work of three brilliant nurses, Florence Nightingale, Edith Cavell and Mary Seacole

Year 2 - they will find out 'Why Charles goes to prison?' Can't wait to find out!

Year 3 - Will be learning about the bronze age and will do some smelting. This is when tin and copper are heated together to make bronze.

Year 4 - will be investigating the Anglo Saxons.

Year 5 - will be discovering the ancient and intriguing world of Chinese dynasties.

Year 6 - will be looking at the golden age of Islam in Baghdad.

Get in Touch

We always welcome suggestions and work in a solution focused way.

Please get in touch:

admin@westfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk

Attendance – Every day at school counts!

Attendance & Number of Late Arrivals: 8 th – 12 th January 2024						
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
97.44%	95.65%	97.78%	95.19%	97.24%	87.65%	89.53%
4	15	5	6	2	6	7

Our target is 95%. Being in school each day, if well, gives your child the best chance of learning and making good progress both educationally and socially. Please support the school by ensuring that your child attends school regularly and arrives ready to learn and on time. Thank you

W1SPA News

W1SPA News!

We are continuing our call out for one more week - [Collection for future Events](#)

If you have new or nearly new gifts, Christmas Jumpers or fancy dress to pass along, please do drop them in the office in the W1SPA collection bins.

Get in touch! Join our Facebook Group www.facebook.com/groups/wispawestfield or follow us on Instagram www.instagram.com/wispa_pta_group for all the latest.

Communications Survey

Thank you to everyone that completed our Communication Survey. We are currently collating the results and hope to share these with you in the coming weeks.

Wellbeing and Parenting Information

Dr Kathy Weston Newsletter

Dr Kathy Weston's Wednesday Wisdom this week, 'Prime Targets' explores the topic of energy drinks, why they might not be ideal for children and young people and how we can help our children think twice before reaching for this apparent energy boost:

[Wednesday Wisdom](#) | [Prime Targets](#) | [Tooled Up Education](#)

Talking Families Online Workshop

Supporting links have moved one of their in-person parenting courses, 'Talking Families' online. The 6-week course starts on Thursday 8th February from 9:45-11:15am and will cover:

- How to manage challenging behaviour with consistency,
- Encouraging positive behaviour,
- Building self-esteem,
- Setting and maintaining boundaries,
- Responding to tantrums and difficult feelings in children
- Developing a strong parent/child relationship now and for the future.

To book a place, please contact Supporting Links on: 07512 709556 or email: bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk
Further information is also available on their website: www.supportinglinks.co.uk

Emotional Based School Avoidance Parent Coffee Mornings

The EBSA coffee morning is aimed at parents and carers who have a child in years 7-11 who is not attending school as a result of emotional, mental health and wellbeing issues. The event is being run by DSPL7&8 with Services for Young People. These will take place at Hemel Hempstead Young People's Centre, 1st Floor, XC Centre, Hemel Hempstead on 25th January, 21st March and 7th May. There is no need to book for this event.

Herts County Council: Help to manage the cost of living

This winter, Hertfordshire County Council wants to make sure that advice and support is available to help every resident deal with the rising cost of living. Practical help is available for those who need it most. To make sure everyone knows what financial and practical support is available, the council is highlighting advice and services Hertfordshire residents can access on the informational flashcard below. All information can also be accessed via Hertfordshire County Council's 'Cost of Living' webpage. Head to www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/winterhelp

Local Events and Information

Hemel Storm Basketball

Storm are back in action on Saturday 20th January at 7pm vs Loughborough Riders. Tickets available online at www.stormbasketball.net or on the night.

Letters/Flyers/Information sent home this week

- Young Voices Music Room

Copies of all letters sent home can be found in the letter rack outside the office and can also be accessed from our website within the ['Letters Home'](#) page

Our School Value this half term is Courage

Help to manage the cost of living

See all of the support, advice and services available to help you stay safe and well. Visit: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/winterhelp, call 0300 123 4044 or scan the QR code

We're
with you
this winter



HertsHelp

Trained advisors offering free, confidential advice on local services and support

Call: 0300 123 4044
Email: info@hertshelp.net
www.hertshelp.net

Community spaces

Find a community space near you, locations all across Hertfordshire

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/communityspaces

Mental health

Advice and support for your happiness, wellbeing and mental health

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/mentalhealth

Money and benefits advice

Free guides on debt and benefits, disability, bereavement, housing, retirement and carer support

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/moneyadvice

Citizens Advice

Free, local and confidential advice on benefits, money and credit problems, employment, housing and family issues

Call: 0800 144 8848

Help for households

Central government is offering support with energy bills, transport, childcare and household costs

www.helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk

We're
with you
this winter



TALKING FAMILIES



Thursdays 9.45-11.15am Course: ID 622
**8th, 15th, 29th February & 7th, 14th
21st March 2024**

NOW ONLINE!

**6, weekly sessions for
parents and carers of children
aged 0-12 sharing tips on how
to:**

- **Manage challenging behaviour with consistency**
- **Encourage positive behaviour**
- **Build your child's self esteem**
- **Set and maintain boundaries**
- **Respond to tantrums and difficult feelings in children**
- **Develop a strong parent/child relationship now and for the future**

**Groups are delivered by Zoom and
are open to parents, carers,
grandparents and guardians living,
or with a child in school, in
Hertfordshire.**

**'Every parent should do this course!
It has taught me so much about how to
deal with family life.'**

**Booking essential
Please quote the course ID
To check eligibility and book a place,
contact Supporting Links on:**

07512 709556

bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk

www.supportinglinks.co.uk



These courses are provided free to
participants by Hertfordshire County
Council's Targeted Parenting Fund



Information you share with us is used to process your booking. This will be held securely and only shared in accordance with our GDPR Policy.



Delivering Special
Provision Locally

Services for
Young People

Emotional Based School Avoidance

Suitable for parents/carers of children in year 7 - 11, in DSPL7 & 8.

This EBSA coffee morning is aimed at parents and carers who have a child in year 7 - 11 who is not attending school as a result of emotional, mental health and wellbeing issues. **The children and young people can also attend.** This event is being run by DSPL7 & 8 with Services for Young People.



This will be taking place at Hemel Hempstead Young People's Centre, 1st Floor, XC centre, Hemel Hempstead, from 9:30 - 11:30am on the following dates:

- 19th October
- 21st March
- 28th November
- 7th May
- 25th January

There is no need to book this event.



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www.dspi7.org.uk